

Message Text

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22

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 SAJ-01 NEA-10 AF-06 SIL-01 LAB-04 ACDA-05 EB-07

OFA-01 DLOS-04 SAL-01 /111 W
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R 091645Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2328

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBSSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBSSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 817

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGSSC PFOR SP DA

SUBJECT: SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO DENMARK

REF: COPENHAGEN 0748 AND 770

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1) SPANISH AMBASSADOR CASTRO-RIAL BRIEFED ME YESTERDAY AT LENGTH ON FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT AT END OF LAST WEEK. HE EXPLAINED THAT SPANIARDS WERE PLEASED WITH PROTOCOL ARRANGEMENTS WHICH MADE VISIT "OFFICIAL" IN EVERYTHING BUT NAME. FONMIN ANDERSEN, FOR EXAMPLE, MET AREILZA AT AIRPORT. LATTER CALPAD ON PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN AND QUEEN MOTHER, WAS HOSTED AT LUNCH AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND ANDERSEN ESCORTED AREILZA TO AIRPORT UPON DEPARTURE. THESE TOUCHES IMPRESSED THE SPANIARDS AND CONTRUBTED TO A FEELING OF GOOD WILL.

2) DURING SUBSTANTIVE SESSION BETWEEN DANES AND SPANIARDS, AREILZA TRACED PLANS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM AND PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY. HIS PRESENTATION APPEARED TO FOLLOW VERY CLOSELY WHAT HE HAS ALREADY SAID IN OTHER COUNTRIES. DURING THIS DISCUSSION, DANES ASKED FOR INTERPRETATION OF TERM "FREEDOM OF PARTIES". AREILZA REPLIED THAT HE LOOKED FORWARD TO A DEMOCRATIC SPAIN WITH FOUR PRINCIPAL PARTIES - THE SOCIALISTS, A LEFT-OF-CENTER CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC GROUP, A CENTRALIST LIBERAL PARTY, AND A NON-TOTALITARIAN RIGHT.

3) AREILZA MADE THE POINT THAT THE THREE PRESENT SOCIALIST PARTIES WOULD HAVE TO GET TOGETHER IF THEY WERE TO BE ELECTORALLY EFFECTIVE. IN THIS CONNECTION, CASTRO-RIAL TOLD ME THAT TIERNO GALVAN WOULD VISIT COPENHAGEN LATER THIS MONTH, AND SAID HE (CASTRO-RIAL) HAD ASKED AREILZA FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO PLAY THE VISIT. (TIERNO AND CASTRO-RIAL ARE OLD FRIENDS WHO TAUGHT POLITICAL SCIENCE TOGETHER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SALAMANCA ABOUT 1940.) AREILZA TOLD CASTRO-RIAL TO BE VERY CORDIAL AND GIVE HIM ALL THE HLEPD HE NEEDED.

4) IN ADDITION TO ASKING ABOUT THE FUTURE INTERNAL STRUCTURE OF SPAIN, THE DANES POSED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SAHARA, ABOUT CEUTA AND MELILLA, ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE UNIONS IN SPAIN, AND ABOUT NATO. ON THE SAHARA AND THE ENCLAVES, AREILZA EXPLAINED THE SPANISH POINTS OF VIEW WHICH HAVE BEEN REPORTED ELSEWHERE. CONCERNING THE TRADE UNIONS, AREILZA STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SYNDICAL CONGRESS WHICH WILL

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BE HELD IN JULY IN MADRID. HE EXPLAINED THAT THIS CONGRESS WOULD LEAD TO DIRECT LABOR NEGOTIATIONS IN THE FUTURE BETWEEN BUSINESS AND LABOR, WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE STATE, AS HAS BEEN THE CASE IN THE PAST.

5) CONCERNING NATO, AREILZA STRESSED THAT THE CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND SPAIN AND THE USE OF SPANISH FACILITIES BY THE USG COMPLEMENTED NATO FORCES

AND THEREBY STRENGTHENED THE DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE.

6) INDISCUSSIONS OF FUTURE SPANISH RELATIONS WITH BOTH NATO AND THE EC, AREILZA WAS QUITE CIRCUMSPECT AS WERE THE DANES. ANDERSEN ASKED AREILZA HOW HE SAW SPAIN'S RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPING WITH THE "EUROPEAN FAMILY". AREILZA ANSWERED POLITELY BUT FIRMLY THAT SPAIN WAS ALREADY A MEMBER OF THE "EUROPEAN FAMILY" BUT THAT INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT IN DUE TIME. AREILZA WENT ON TO SAY THAT SPAIN HOPED TO ACHIEVE EVENTUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE EC AS AN INSTITUTION BUT THAT SPAIN WAS NOT ASKING FOR ANY SPECIAL STEPS AT THIS TIME.

7) IN A SEPARATE BILATERAL CONVERSATION, JENS CHRISTENSEN, PERMSEC OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, DISCUSSED TECHNICALITIES OF THE EC ASSOCIATION WITH HIS SPANISH COUNTERPART, RAIMUNDO BASSOLS. APPARENTLY, BASSOLS WAS ABLE TO CLEAR AWAY SOME DANISH MISUNDERSTANDINGS CONCERNING SPANISH INTENTIONS RE EC MEMBERSHIP.

8) IN A RATHER CURIOUS MOVE, THE DANES BROUGHT IN GREENLAND MINISTER JORGEN PEDER HANSEN WHO WANTED TO KNOW WHY THE SPANISH HAD HIS DECEMBER LETTER EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE EXTENT OF SPANISH SHRIMP FISHING OFF THE GREENLAND COAST. AREILZA SEEMED SURPRISED AT THIS INTERVENTION BUT PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE SUBJECT AND SEND A REPLY QUICKLY.

9) SPANISH AMBASSADOR CASTRO-RIAL SAID THAT BEFORE THE VISIT HE WAS SOMEWHAT NERVOUS BECAUSE OF THREATS OF DEMONSTRATIONS AS WELL AS FEAR OF HECKLING AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE. AS IT TURNED OUT, THE ONLY DEMONSTRATION CONSISTED OF SOME 30 LEFTIST STUDENTS WHO APPEARED AT HOTEL CONFIDENTIAL

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AFTER AREILZA HAD LEFT AND THEN DISPERSED BEFORE THEY COULD REACH SPANISH EMBASSY. AT PRESS CONFERENCE (EMBTel 0770), AREILZA FIELDDED ALL QUESTIONS WITH EASE, INCLUDING A PARTICULARLY TRICKY ONE CONCERNING WHY HE COULD NOT FAVOR DEMOCRACY WHEN HE HAD WORKED AS ONE OF FRANCO'S AMBASSADORS.

10) DANISH REACTION TO SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT REPORTED SEPTel.
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